

**BOARD OF SANITARY DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026, 4:00 P.M. 1100 E. EIGHTH STREET**

Michigan City Board of Sanitary District Commissioners

Andrew Sperling	(Mayoral appointment 6/20/2024 – 6/21/2028)
Tina Mahone	(Mayoral appointment 7/1/2025 – 7/1/2029)
Don Babcock	(Mayoral appointment 4/23/2024 – 1/1/2027)
Tance Falls	(Mayoral appointment 11/8/2024 – 11/9/2028)
Timothy Werner	City Engineer – virtue of position

The meeting was called to order at 4:14 P.M. by President Don Babcock .

Commissioners present were Don Babcock, Andrew Sperling, Tim Werner, Tance Falls, and Tina Mahone.

Staff present at the meeting were:

Rhonda Anderson, Superintendent of Water Reclamation  
Al Walus, District Engineer  
Rachel McCline, Administrative Assistant  
Paul Anderson, Controls Engineer  
Christopher Yagelski, Business & Facilities Manager  
Wendy Vachet, Director of Public Works  
Jewell Harris, Legal Counsel

Also present for the meeting were:

Scott Meland, Michigan City Resident  
Tom Nagle, Robinson Engineering  
John Kremke, Schneider Geomatics  
Don Przybylinski, Michigan City Common Council

**Certification**

Pursuant to the Indiana Code § 5-14-1.5-6.1 (d), an executive session was held just prior to this meeting, and no subject matter was discussed in the executive session other than the subject matter specified in the public notice.

**Minutes**

Mr. Sperling moved to approve February 25, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

**Public Comment**

Councilman Przybylinski addressed the Board regarding storm sewer erosion concerns at the northeast corner of Wilshire Avenue and Oak Street.

Councilman Przybylinski recommended an update regarding litigation with the Town of Long Beach. Attorney Harris advised that both parties have negotiated a settlement. It was noted that City officials are in the process of working through fund and budget issues.

Mr. Meland addressed the Board requesting an update of the Lafayette Street/Barker Avenue Storm Sewer. Mr. Meland also requested a status update regarding the ditch maintenance throughout Michigan City. Mr. Meland reported that the curbs along York Street and Lafayette Street need to be cleaned.

**Financial Report**

As of February 28, 2026:

Refuse Fund: \$1,773,800.93

Storm Water Fund: \$676,503.72

Operating Fund: \$903,848.47

Improvement Fund: \$790,276.62

Vehicle Replacement Fund: \$267,677.07

Equipment Replacement Fund: \$529,396.70

Grant Fund: -\$482,630.57

SRF Debt Fund: \$581,906.67

SRF Bond and Interest Fund: \$271,476.97

Special Fund: \$10,686.01

Karwick Remediation Fund: \$152,558.71

Levy Excess Fund: \$8,522.14

Mrs. Anderson submitted the Revenue and Tax Levy Claims for payment and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve the Revenue and Tax Levy Claims for payment – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

**New Business/Board Action**

Mrs. Anderson advised that after review, the Sanitary District would like to award the 750 KVA Transformer Replacement Project to Marquiss Electric in the amount of 179,000.00 and recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve and award the 750 KVA Transformer Replacement Project to Marquiss Electric as recommended – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Mrs. Anderson advised that after review, the Sanitary District would like to award the SCADA Server Operating Systems Licenses to SHI International in the amount of \$14,166.13 in addition to the Server Hardware in the amount of \$118,029.05. Attorney Harris noted that the Quantity Purchase Agreement number was 54976. Mrs. Anderson then recommended Board approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve the Operating Systems Licenses and the Server Hardware from SHI International as presented – seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Ms. Vachet advised that the pending conditions of the 300 North Lift Station Project have been met.

Ms. Vachet advised that the Sanitary District and the Michigan City Department of Water Works have an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to maintain the best contractual standards and to continue responsive business practices.

#### **Old Business/Information Updates**

Mr. Walus advised that the Sanitary District continues to work with Christopher B. Burke Engineering on the Lift Station Analysis. Mr. Walus noted that a Capital Improvement update will be reported at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Walus advised that critical site inspections of Striebel Arm Ditch were performed and finalized on March 9, 2026.

Regarding the U.S. Highway 12 and Lake Avenue Sewer Project, Mr. Kremke reported that survey access is needed to complete the Amtrack Permit.

Ms. Vachet reported that the Sanitary District is committed to responding to Attorney Bergerson of Lake Shore Sewer, LLC, in the next two (2) weeks with correspondence regarding the next steps going forward.

Ms. Vachet congratulated Nicholas Edwards on obtaining his Class-IV Wastewater Operator License. It was noted that Mr. Edwards encourages other operators to seek Licenses pertaining to their positions in the wastewater treatment facility.

Mrs. Anderson reported that there were forty-two (42) loads of domestic and commercial wastewater totaling 71,750 gallons, 7 loads of grease totaling 23,600 gallons and 74 loads of leachate totaling 370,000 gallons discharged to the Sanitary District in February 2026.

Mr. Walus advised that Sanitary District officials have been working with the District's Controls Engineer on calibrating flow meters to obtain data for flow studies.

Mr. Yagelski submitted the 2026 Clothing Allowance Proposal. It was noted that the Sanitary District, along with the Refuse Division, will be utilizing MES Uniform House in Indianapolis for the year 2026 as the District's uniform and clothing supplier. Mr. Yagelski then recommended approval of the same.

Mr. Sperling moved to approve the 2026 Clothing Allowance Proposal as presented – seconded by Mrs. Mahone. There being no further question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

Regarding the Vegetation/Drainage Control along Michigan Boulevard Corridor, Mr. Yagelski advised that he is working with city officials to determine the funding of the project.

Mr. Yagelski reported that the Refuse department has begun spring cleanup. It was noted that all items are to be placed in front of the home for pick up on the regular scheduled trash day. Mr. Yagelski advised that the Municipal Airport drop off event will begin on April 1, 2026, and will run every Wednesday and Saturday for the month of April 2026 from 8:00 A.M. until noon.

Mr. Falls recommended that the spring clean up information be distributed to the public again to ensure the community is aware of the event.

Mr. Sperling moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 P.M. - seconded by Mr. Werner. There being no question or comment on the matter, the motion carried 5 – 0 in favor.

**Next Board of Sanitary District Commissioners Regular Meeting – April 22, 2026, at 1100 E. Eighth Street, Michigan City, IN 46360 at 4:00 P.M. Local Time.**



Don Babcock, President



Date